

I extend my deepest congratulations to Soledad Sierra for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING HOWARD UNIVERSITY PHARMACY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 24, 2014*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and congratulating the Howard University Pharmacy Alumni Association on 55 years of service to the Howard University College of Pharmacy and to the profession of pharmacy.

Pharmacy education is an essential part of the core curriculum at Howard University. Since its establishment, Howard University has consistently educated diverse, culturally competent and thoughtful pharmacists. In fact, one of Howard University's earliest graduates earned a Bachelor of Sciences in Pharmacy, and started the legacy of service and excellence that has defined subsequent generations of graduates.

The College of Pharmacy's graduates work tirelessly to address existing and emerging health care concerns, including health care disparities along racial and economic lines. However, their call to serve extends well beyond the clinical and beyond the confines of their profession. For 55 years, the Pharmacy Alumni Association has served as one of the most effective advocates for the school and its students. Through its efforts, countless students have received scholarships and mentoring that enabled and empowered them to join this noble profession.

I ask the House to join me in celebrating the Pharmacy Alumni Association's 55th anniversary, and I wish the Howard University Pharmacy Alumni Association many more years of success as they continue to provide financial and networking opportunities to the next generation of pharmacists.

HONORING ABDULLAHI CHARIF

**HON. KEITH ELLISON**

OF MINNESOTA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 24, 2014*

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Abdullahi Charif, a 12-year-old boy who tragically lost his life on March 1st, 2014, as a result of an accident that occurred while swimming during a physical education class at school.

Abdullahi lived a short life but he made a significant impact on his family and community. He was a bright and promising young man who enjoyed life. We must cherish the gifts and lessons he provided to his family and friends during his short time.

The tragic loss of Abdullahi should serve as a reminder that pool procedures in schools must be evaluated and held to the highest standards of safety. We must do all we can to avoid tragedies like this from occurring again.

I offer my condolences to his family and community in this time of loss.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the life of Abdullahi Charif.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONGREGATION AHAVAS ACHIM

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 24, 2014*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Congregation Ahavas Achim in Highland Park, New Jersey as it celebrates its 125th Anniversary this year. Since its incorporation in 1889, Congregation Ahavas Achim has provided a spiritual center for prayer, education and community to Middlesex County residents.

Upon its incorporation, Congregation Ahavas Achim began humbly, meeting in members' homes or rented stores in New Brunswick. Over the next several years, it grew, purchasing land and a building and continued to enlarge and remodel to meet the needs of a growing membership. Congregation Ahavas Achim relocated to Highland Park in 1987 and its new building was dedicated in 1989. The synagogue expanded once again and was re-dedicated in 2010.

Congregation Ahavas Achim is a Torah-observant congregation and member congregation of the Orthodox Union. It is open to Jews of all backgrounds and strives to include all members in synagogue life.

Over the years, Congregation Ahavas Achim has been led by Rabbi Israel Marcus, Rabbi Samuel Baskin, Rabbi Abraham Shapiro and Rabbi Ronald L. Schwarzberg. After serving as Assistant Rabbi, Interim Rabbi and Program Director, Rabbi Steven Miodownik became Rabbi of the congregation in 2006 and continues to provide spiritual leadership and guidance today. In addition to the Rabbi, the officers, staff and members of Congregation Ahavas Achim endeavor to carry on its mission and commit to a Halakhic life.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in celebrating Congregation Ahavas Achim as its members and supporters gather to celebrate its 125th Anniversary on March 30, 2014 and honor Marcia and Barry Levinson and Jennie and Josh Fine. Congregation Ahavas Achim and the esteemed honorees and guests of honor are truly deserving of this body's recognition.

WILSON MANTILLA

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 24, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Wilson Mantilla for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Wilson Mantilla is a 12th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Wilson Mantilla is exemplary of the type of achieve-

ment that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Wilson Mantilla for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 24, 2014*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,546,932,628,558.05. We've added \$6,920,055,579,644.97 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.9 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 24, 2014*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, on March 13 and 14, 2014 I joined Admiral Mike Connor, Commander of US Submarine Forces, on a visit to the USS *Missouri* to see firsthand the operations of a Virginia Class Submarine and missed several recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"Yes" on rollcall No. 129, on the motion to recommit H.R. 3973 with instructions;

"Yes" on rollcall No. 130, on agreeing to the Polis of Colorado Part A Amendment No. 3 to H.R. 3973;

"Yes" on rollcall No. 131, on the motion to recommit H.R. 3189 with instructions; "No" on rollcall No. 132, on passage of H.R. 3189;

"No" on rollcall No. 133, on the motion to table H. Res. 517;

"Yes" on rollcall No. 134, on the motion to recommit H.R. 4015 with instructions;

"No" on rollcall No. 135, on passage of H.R. 4015.

IN HONOR OF THE REVEREND RANDALL TREGO

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 24, 2014*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a man who has put God and others above himself. The Reverend Randall Trego has been a blessing to The Woodlands through his ministry. As chaplain at St. Luke's The Woodlands Hospital for the past 11 years, Rev. Trego has helped families heal. Since